IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):	François-Xavier Nuttall	Docket No.:	11245.00053
Application No.:		Group Art Unit:	3642
Filing Date:		Examiner:	Unknown
TITLE	METHOD FOR COMPUTER NETWORK OPERATION PROVIDING BASIS FOR USAGE FEES		

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Commissioner:

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Drawing

Please replace informal drawings Fig. 1-20 with the formal drawings Fig. 1-20 (copy attached) filed on June 16, 1998 in U.S. Patent Application No. 09/055,060 filed on April 3, 1998.

In the Specification

Please amend the specification as follows:

At page 2, line 20, replace "from" with --between--.

At page 6, line 14, replace "and" with --that are--.

At page 6, line 28, before "distinguishes" insert --118--.

At page 6, line 31, before "allocates" insert --118--.

At page 6, line 32, before "then" insert --118--.

At page 8, line 16, delete "a".

At page 11, line 24, after "addresses" insert --and the content managing node address--.

At page 12, line 30, after "complete." insert --Further requests for files may be made in response to receiving an acknowledgement that the summary report has been received by the event reporting node.--.

At page 14, line 24, after "336" insert --describing what content files were sent and when sent--.

At page 15, line 31, replace "no report is" with --one or more of the expected reports is not timely--.

In the Claims

Please cancel without prejudice claims 1-8 and add the following claims:

9. A method for managing access to a digital work, the method for execution by a reconciling node, the method comprising:

receiving via a network a first report, the first report being provided in response to a transaction that provided the digital work from a content providing node to a content requesting node, the first report comprising a transaction identifier;

receiving via the network a second report that originated from a content managing node, the second report comprising a value and a payee identifier;

comparing the value and the transaction identifier; and

transmitting onto the network a message enabling a credit to an account corresponding to the payee identifier.

10. The method of claim 9 wherein the first report comprises indicia of a difference, the difference prepared in accordance with a start report originating from the content requesting node and a summary report originating from the content requesting node.

11. The method of claim 9 wherein receiving the first report comprises:

receiving via the network a plurality of records; and

determining the first report in accordance with a record of the plurality.

12. A method for managing access to a digital work, the method for execution by a reconciling node, the method comprising:

receiving via a network a plurality of first reports, each first report being provided in response to a respective transaction that provided the digital work from a content providing

node to a content requesting node, each first report comprising a respective transaction identifier and a respective first tracking value;

receiving via the network a plurality of second reports, each second report originating from a content managing node, each second report comprising a respective value, a respective payee identifier, and a respective second tracking value;

identifying a particular first report and a particular second report, wherein the particular reports have corresponding tracking values.

comparing the respective transaction identifier of the particular first report and the respective value of the particular second report; and

transmitting onto the network a message enabling payment in accordance with the comparison.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein each tracking value comprises an address of the content requesting node.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein the method further comprises:

receiving via the network a plurality of third reports, each third report comprising indicia of a respective debit in accordance with a respective transaction; and

detecting the occurrence of an invalid transaction wherein for the invalid transaction, at least one of the first report, the second report, and the third report are not timely received.

15. The method of claim 12 wherein the method further comprises:

receiving via the network a plurality of third reports, each third report comprising indicia of a respective debit in accordance with a respective transaction; and

detecting the occurrence of an invalid transaction wherein for the invalid transaction, at least one of the first report, the second report, and the third report are not originated in a predetermined sequence.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein:

the plurality of third reports is provided by a plurality of event reporting nodes;

each third report comprises indicia of time of day determined by a respective event reporting node; and

the method further comprises transmitting a second message via the network from which each event reporting node can adjust its time of day for eliminating error in sequence detection.

17. A method for managing access to a digital work, the method for execution by a first computer system, the method comprising:

receiving via a network a first report, the first report being provided in response to a transaction that transferred via the network the digital work from a second computer system to a third computer system, the first report comprising a transaction identifier;

receiving via the network a second report that originated from a fourth computer system, the second report comprising a value and a payee identifier;

comparing the value and the transaction identifier; and

transmitting onto the network a message enabling a credit to an account corresponding to the payee identifier.

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 9 - 17 are pending. No new matter is submitted. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if it would in any way advance prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Bachand

William R. Bachand
Reg. No. 34,980

SQUIRE, SANDERS & DEMPSEY L.L.P.
Two Renaissance Square
40 North Central Avenue, Suite 2700
Phoenix, Arizona 85004-4498
(602) 528-4100

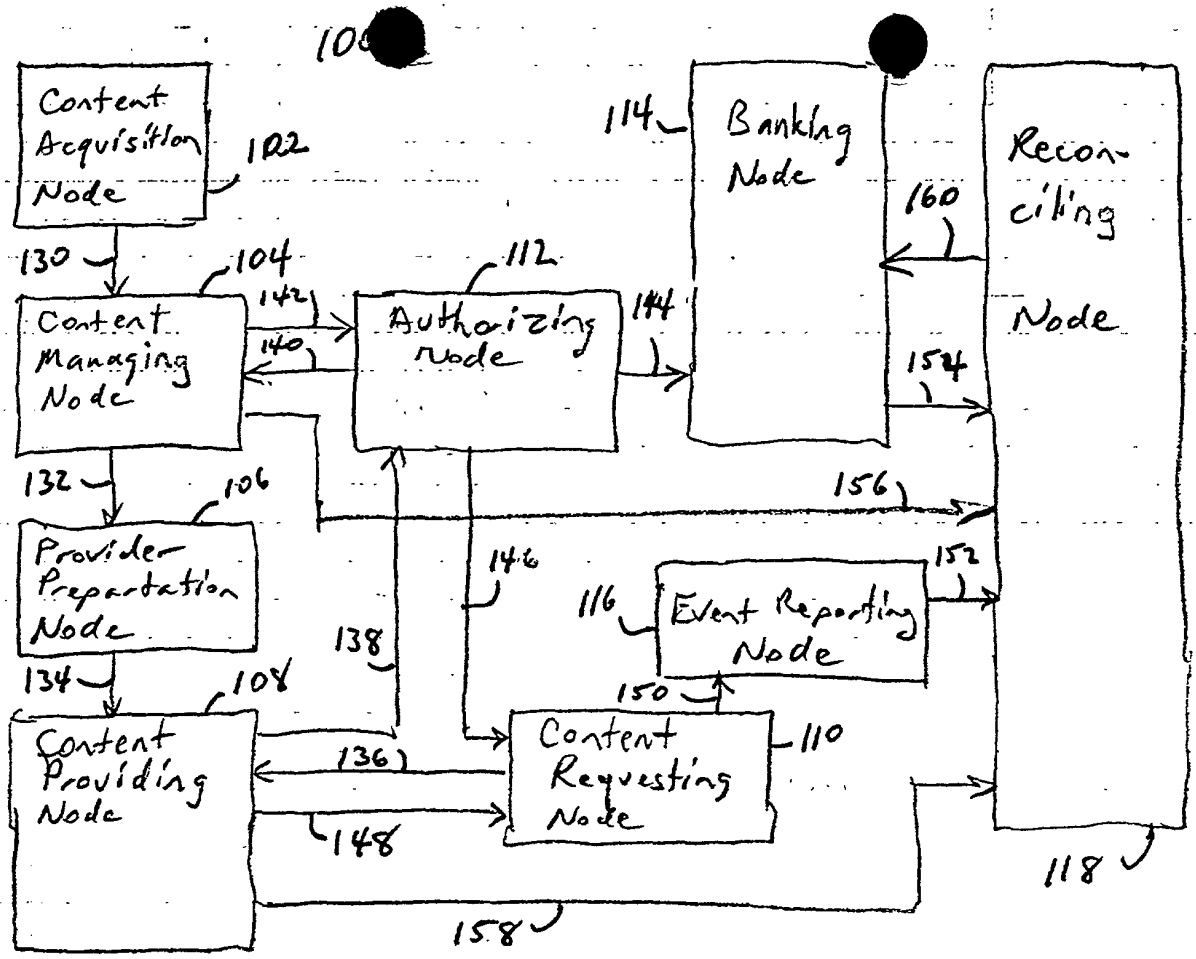

100
Content Acquisition Node
102
Banking Node
114
Reconciling Node
160
130
104
Content Managing Node
142
140
112
Authorizing Node
144
154
132
106
Provider Preparation Node
156
146
116
Event Reporting Node
152
138
134
108
Content Providing Node
150
Content Requesting Node
110
136
148
118
158

Fig. 1

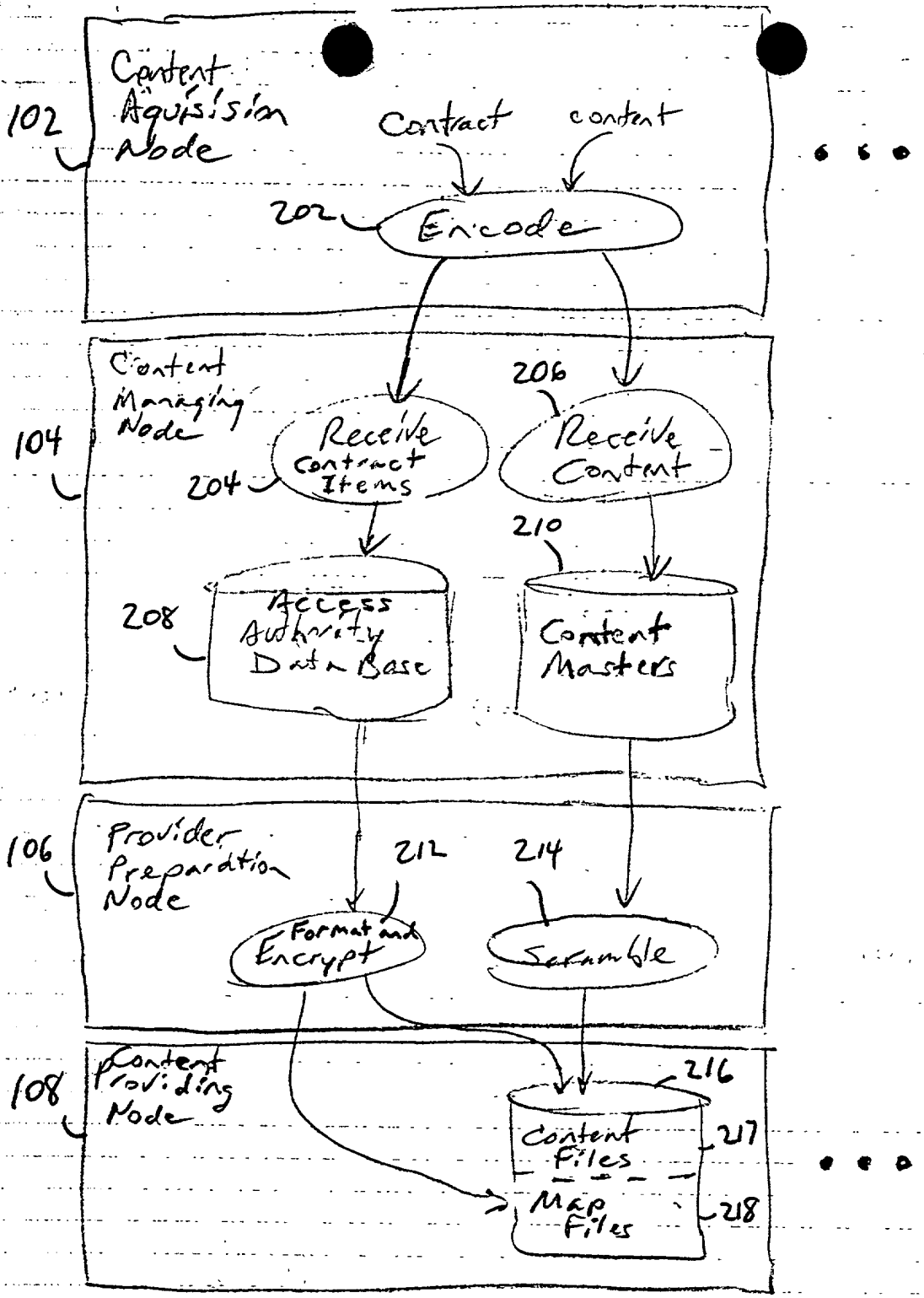

Content Acquisition Node
102
Contract
content
202
Encode
Content Managing Node
104
Receive Contract Items
204
206
Receive Content
208
Access Authority Data Base
210
Content Masters
Provider Preparation Node
106
212
214
Format and Encrypt
Scramble
Content Providing Node
108
216
Content Files
217
Map Files
218

Fig. 2

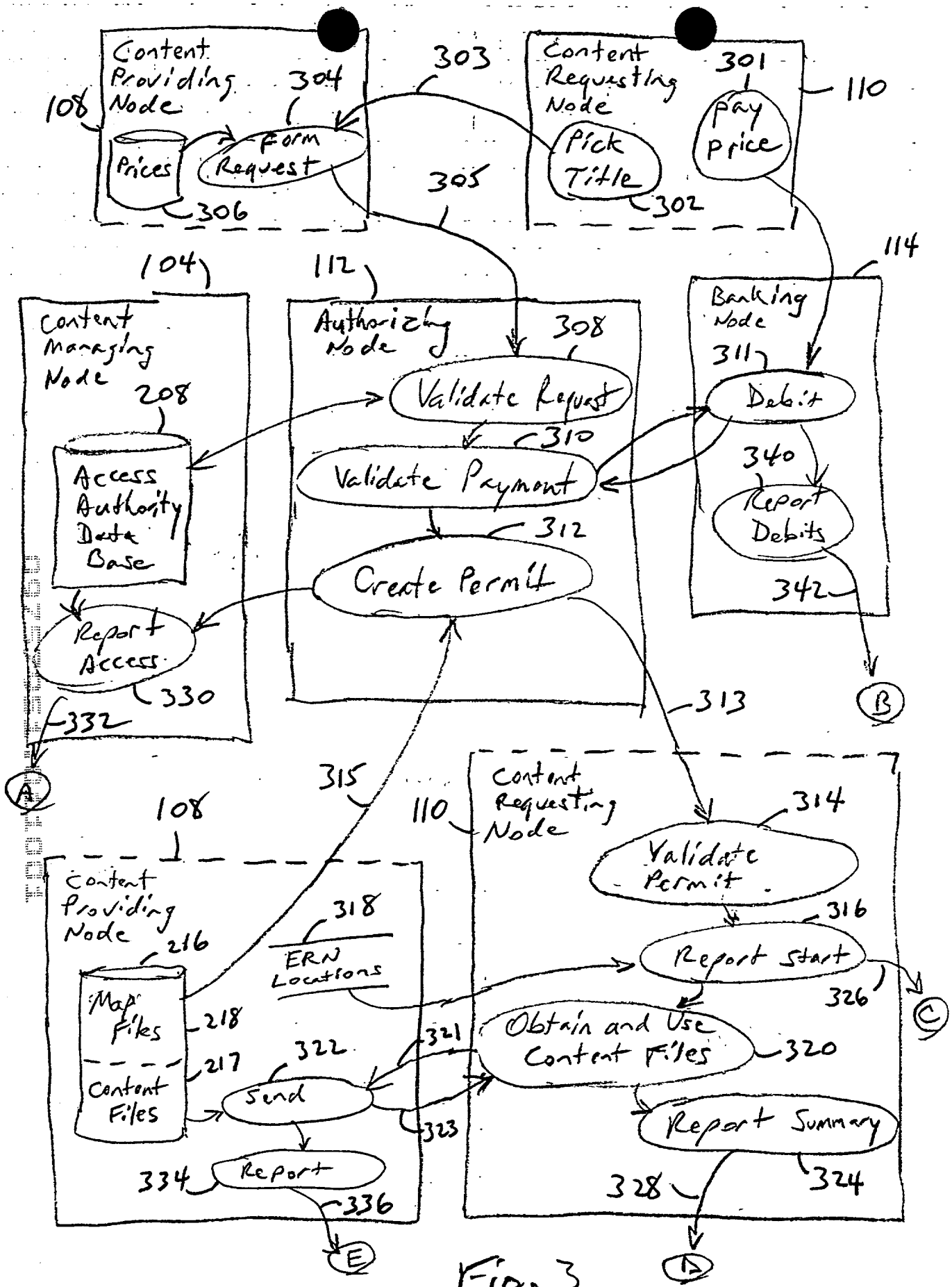

Content Providing Node
108
304
Form Request
Prices
306
303
Content Requesting Node
301
110
Pay Price
Pick Title
302
305
104
Content Managing Node
208
Access Authority Data Base
Report Access
330
332
112
Authorizing Node
308
Validate Request
310
Validate Payment
312
Create Permit
313
114
Banking Node
311
Debit
340
Report Debits
342
B
A
315
108
Content Providing Node
216
Map Files
218
Content Files
217
318
ERN Locations
322
Send
323
334
Report
336
E
110
Content Requesting Node
314
Validate Permit
316
Report Start
326
C
321
Obtain and Use Content Files
320
Report Summary
324
328
D

Fig. 3

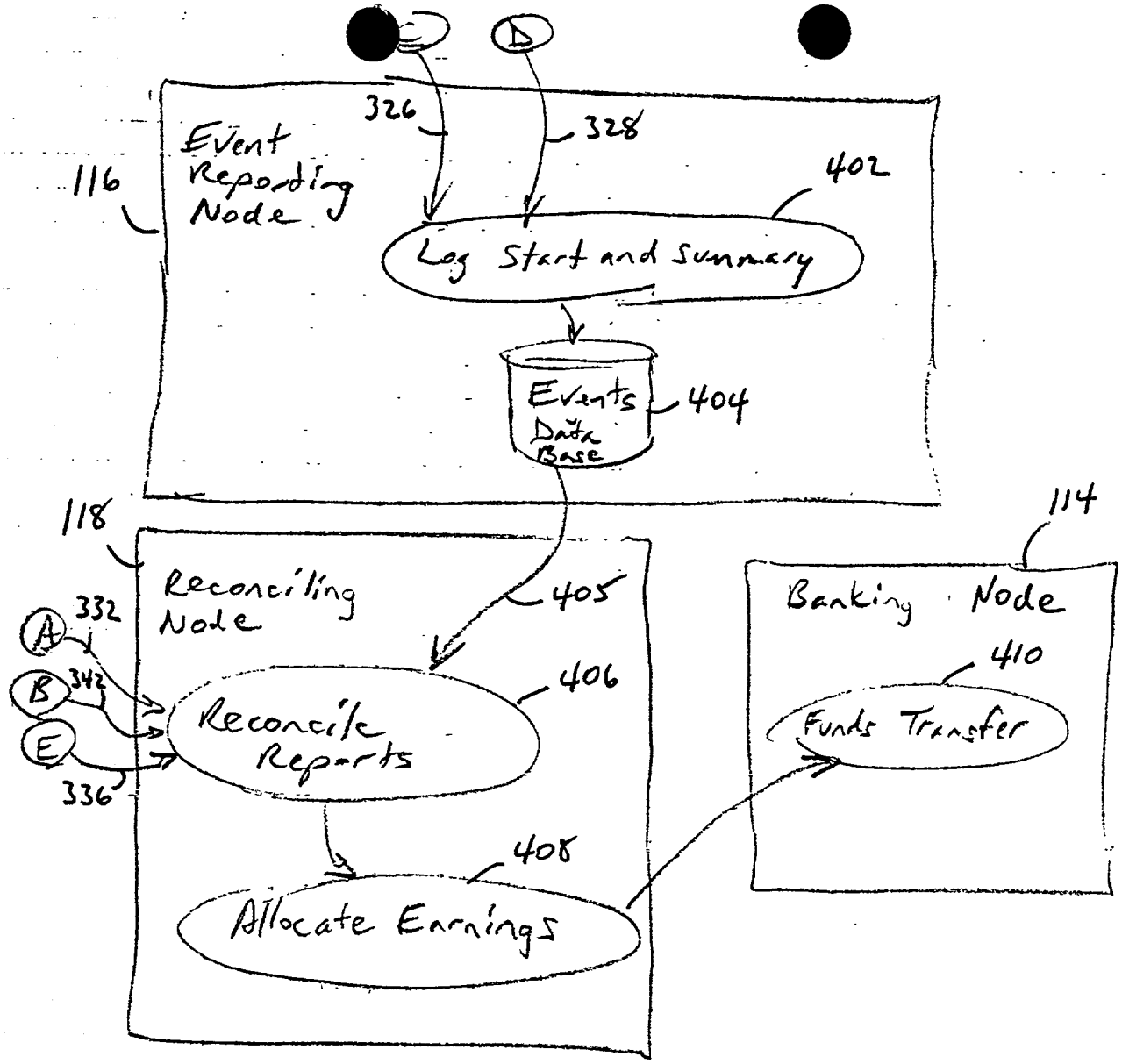
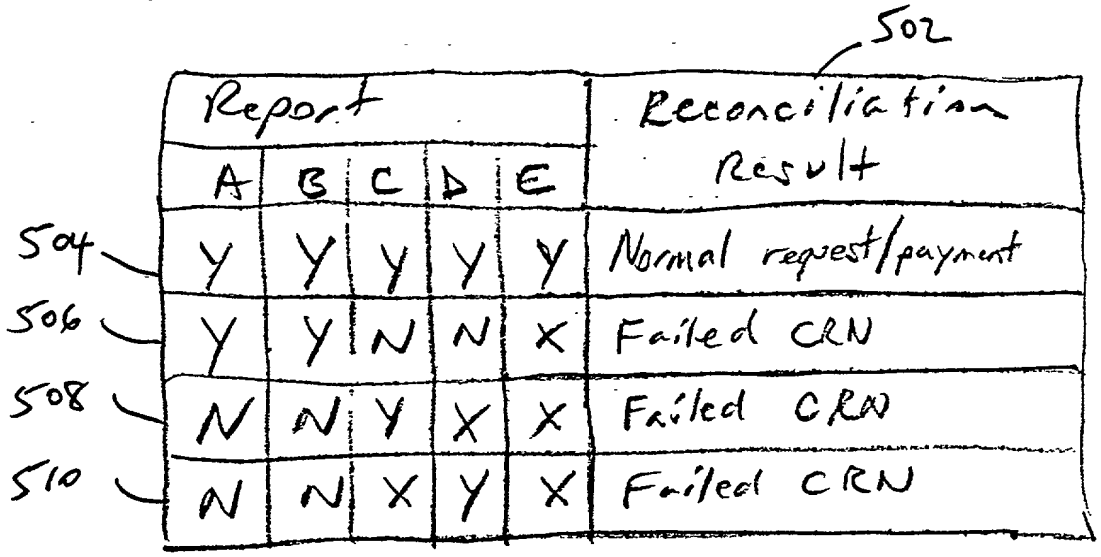

326
328
Event Reporting Node
116
402
Log Start and summary
Events Data Base
404
118
Reconciling Node
405
114
Banking Node
410
A
332
B
342
E
336
Reconcile Reports
406
Funds Transfer
408
Allocate Earnings

Fig. 4



Y = Yes

N = No

X = Don't Care

Fig. 5

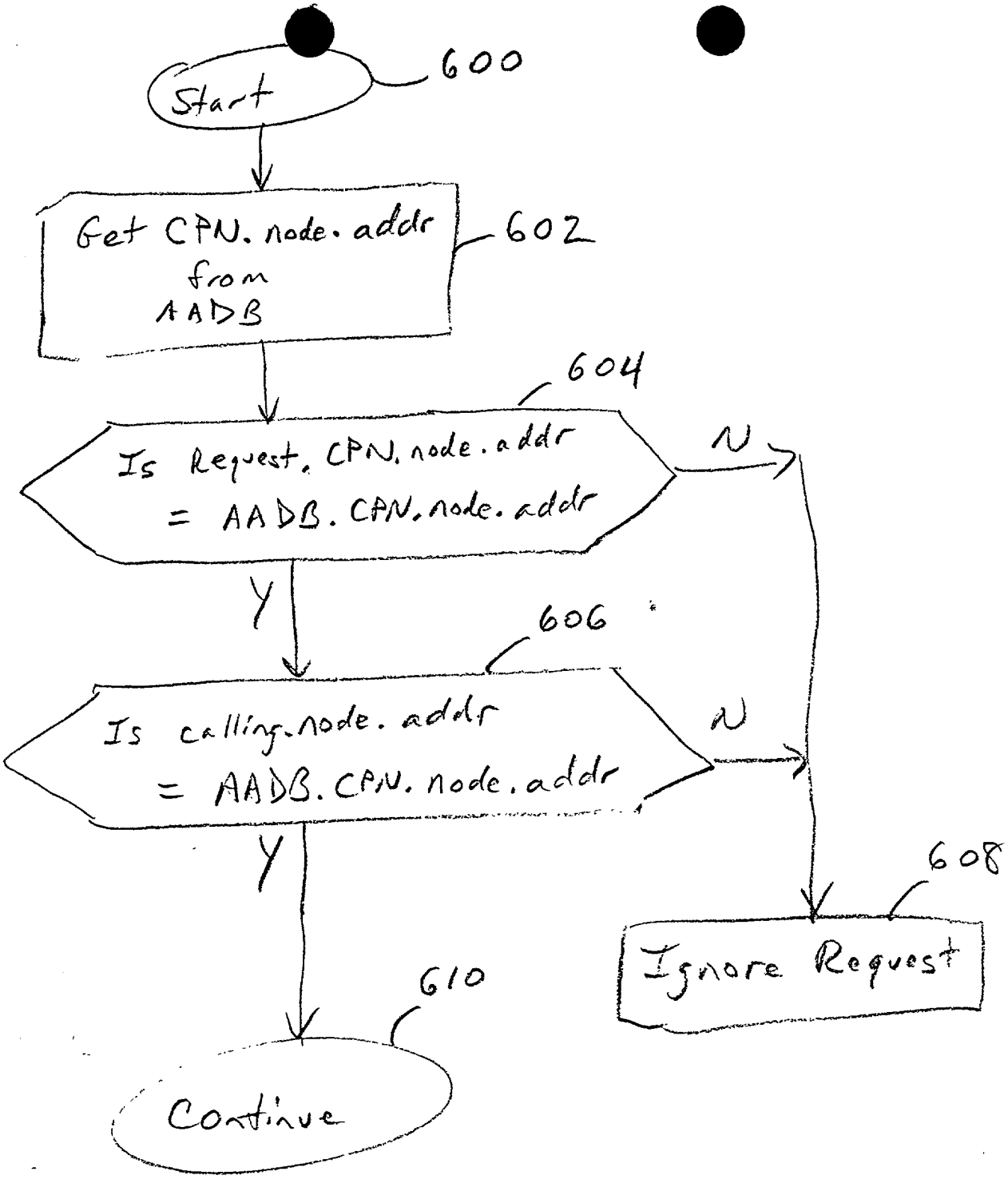

Start
600
Get CPN.node.addr from AADB
602
Is Request.CPN.node.addr = AADB.CPN.node.addr
604
N
Y
Is calling.node.addr = AADB.CPN.node.addr
606
N
Y
Ignore Request
608
Continue
610

Fig. 6

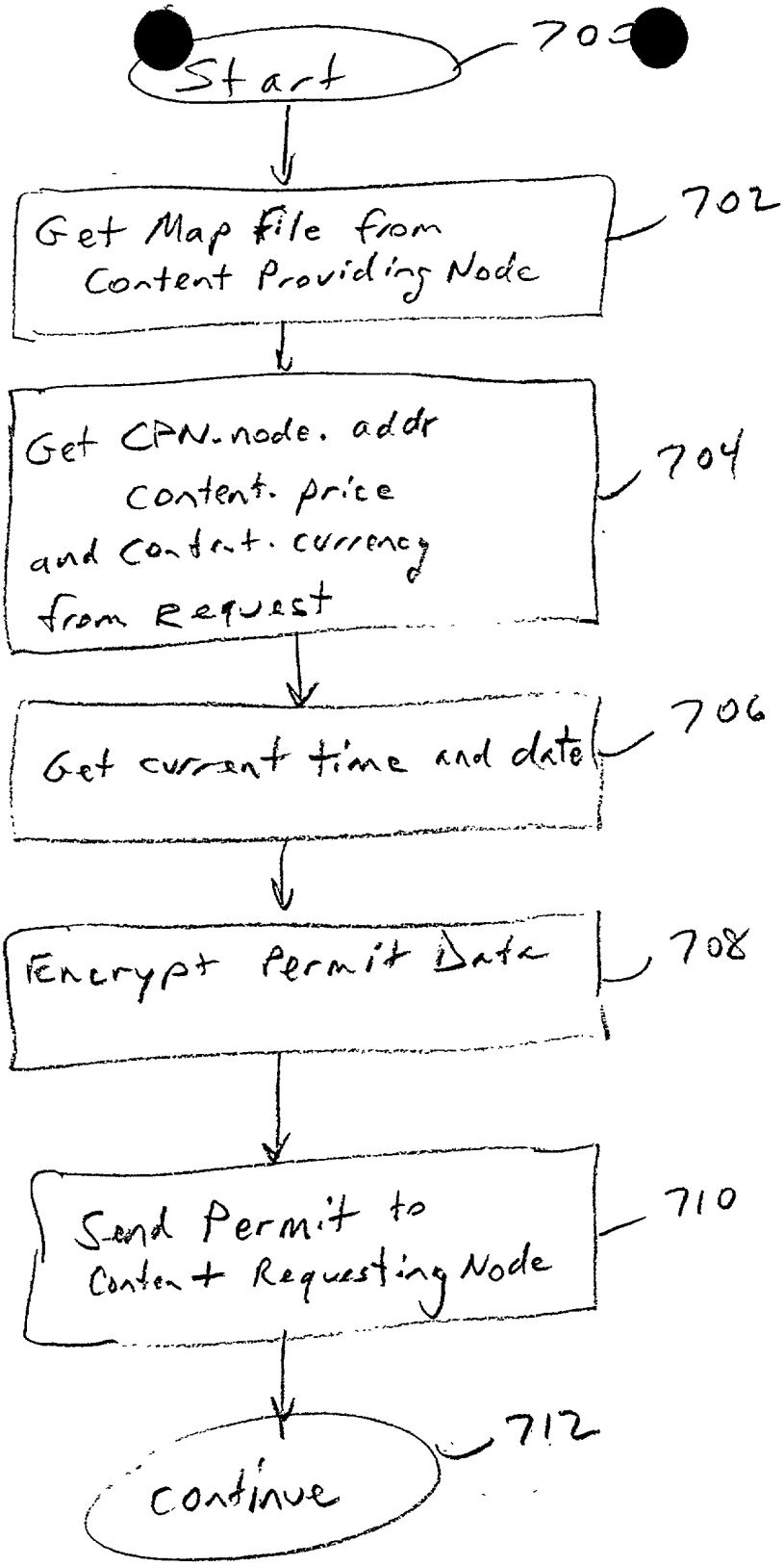

Start
700
Get Map file from Content Providing Node
702
Get CPN.node.addr content.price and content.currency from Request
704
Get current time and date
706
Encrypt Permit Data
708
Send Permit to Content Requesting Node
710
Continue
712

Fig. 7

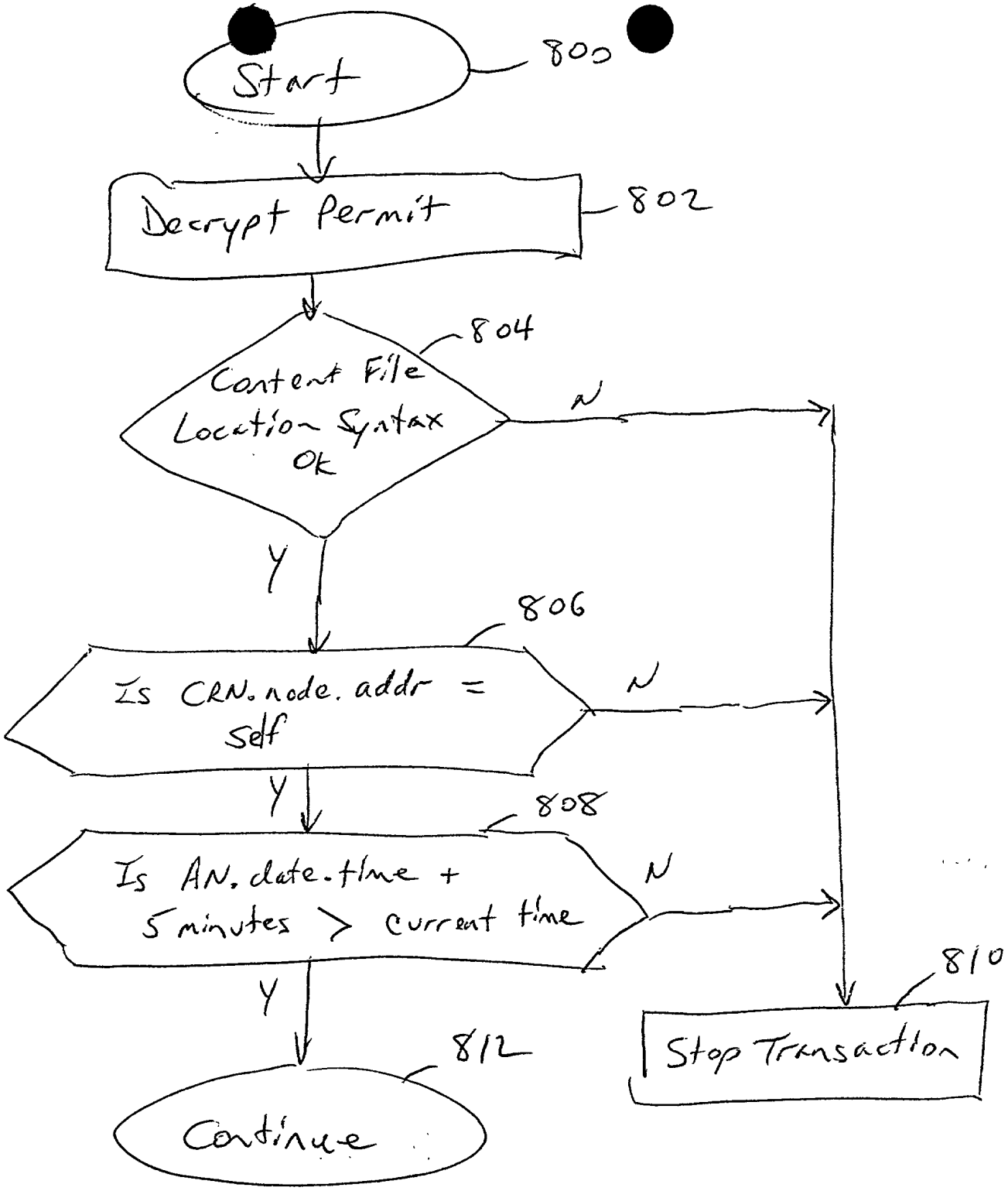

Start
800
Decrypt Permit
802
Content File Location Syntax Ok
804
N
Y
Is CRN.node.addr = self
806
N
Y
Is AN.date.time + 5 minutes > current time
808
N
Y
Stop Transaction
810
Continue
812

Fig. 8

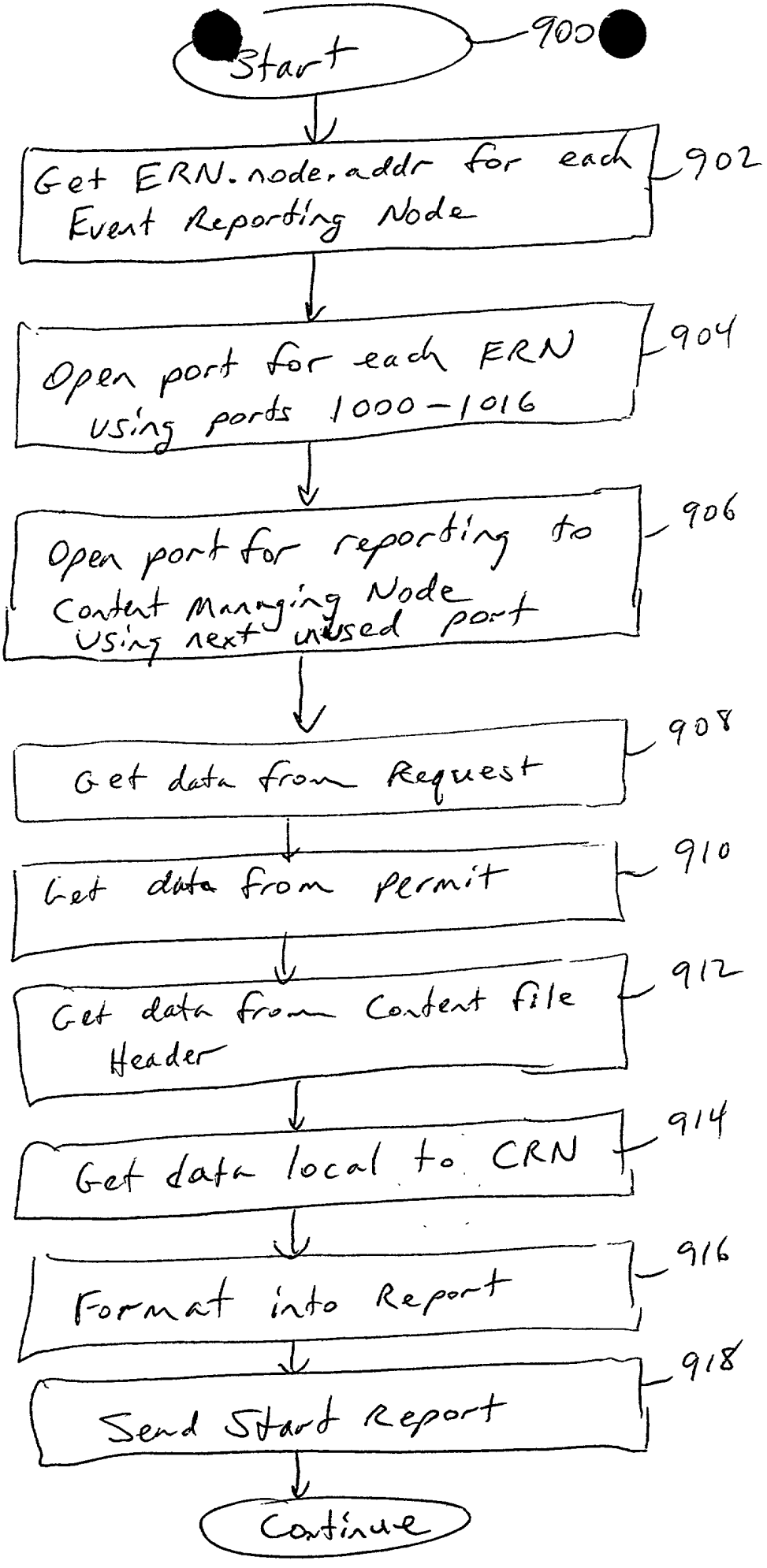

Start
900
Get ERN.node.addr for each Event Reporting Node
902
Open port for each ERN using ports 1000–1016
904
Open port for reporting to Content Managing Node using next unused port
906
Get data from Request
908
Get data from Permit
910
Get data from Content file Header
912
Get data local to CRN
914
Format into Report
916
Send Start Report
918
Continue

Fig. 9

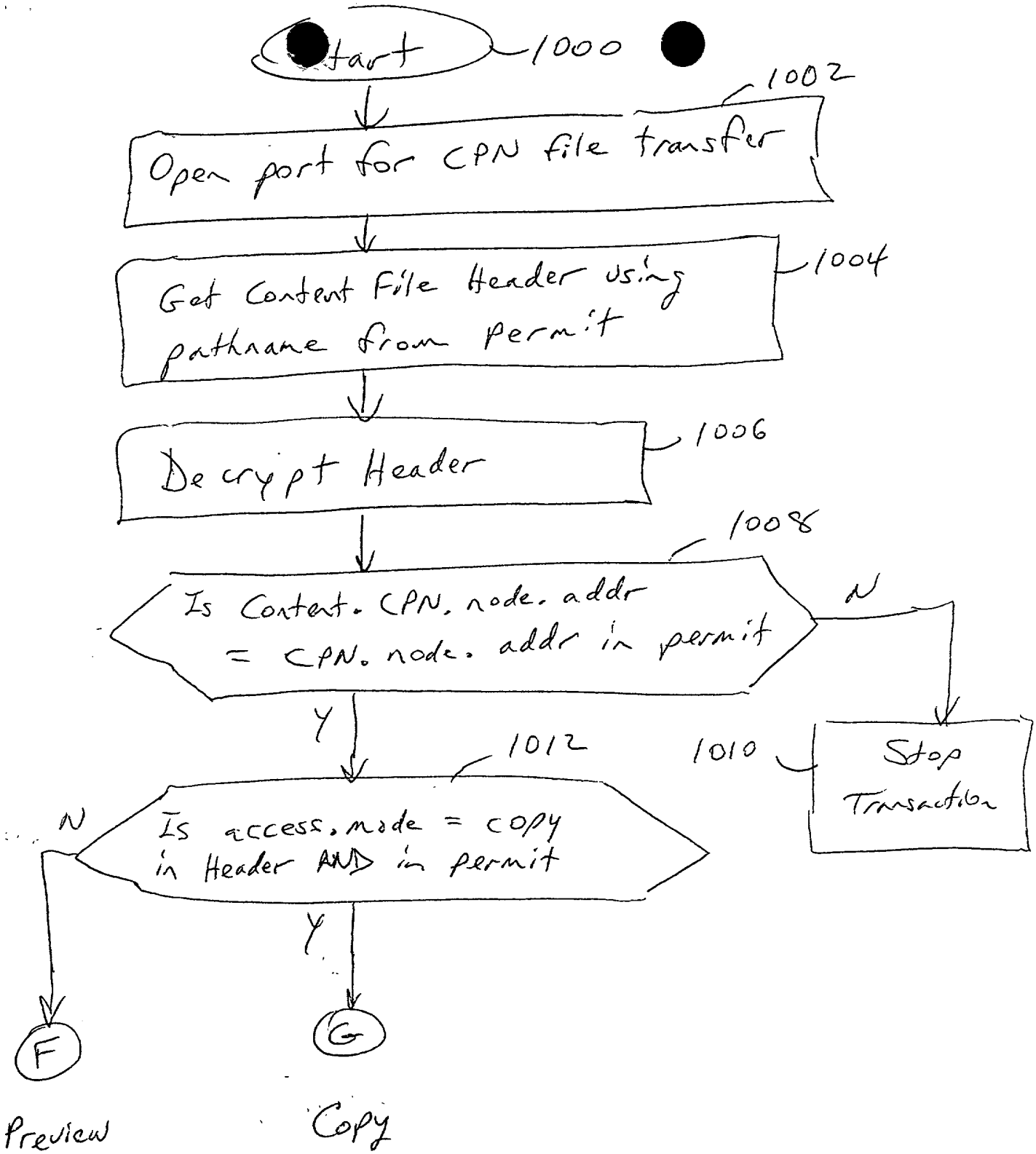

Start
1000
1002
Open port for CPN file transfer
1004
Get Content File Header using pathname from permit
1006
Decrypt Header
1008
Is Content. CPN. node. addr = CPN. node. addr in permit
N
Y
1010
Stop Transaction
1012
Is access. mode = COPY in Header AND in permit
N
Y
F
G
Preview
Copy

Fig. 10

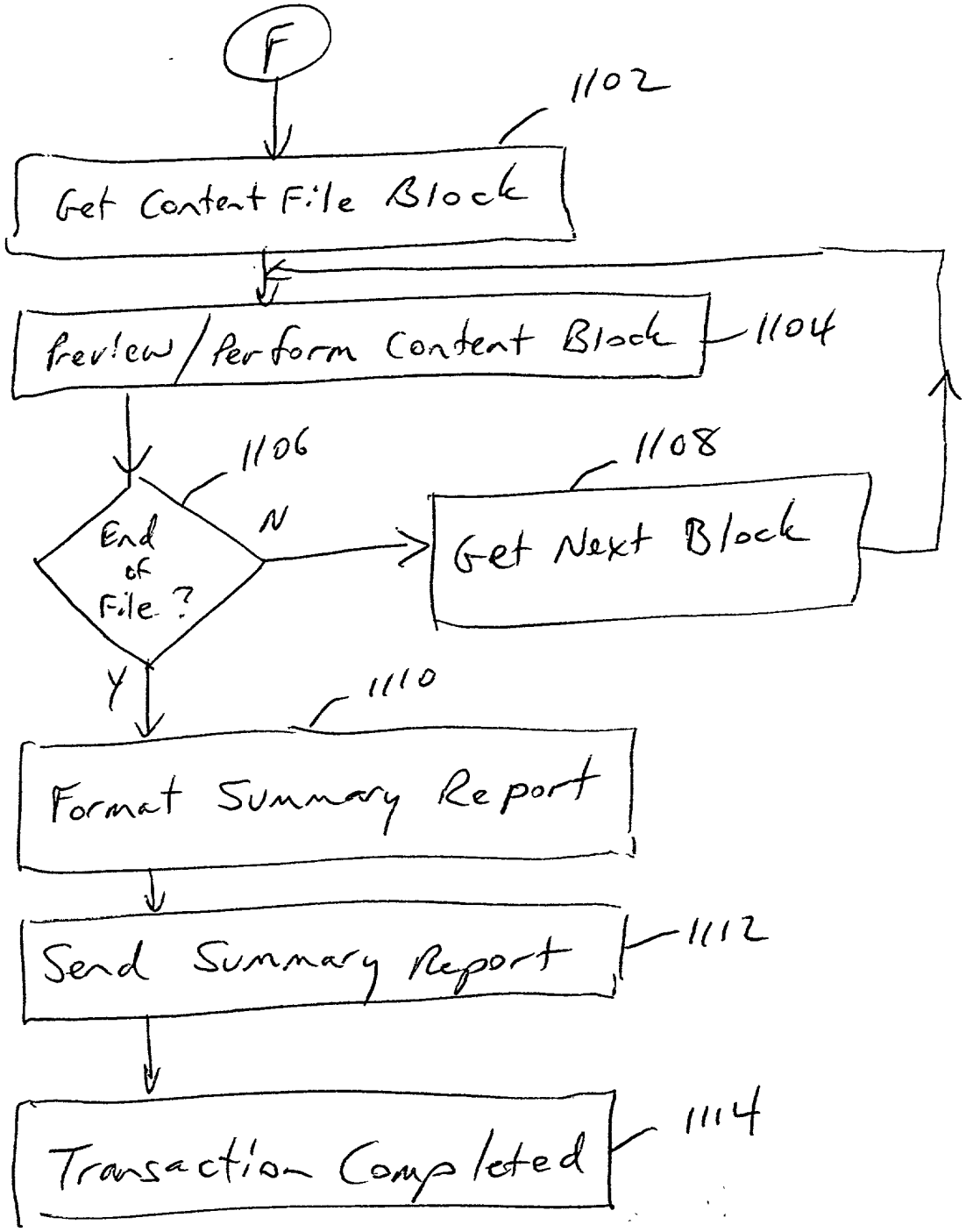

F
1102
Get Content File Block
Preview/Perform Content Block
1104
1106
End of File?
N
1108
Get Next Block
Y
1110
Format Summary Report
Send Summary Report
1112
Transaction Completed
1114

Fig. 11

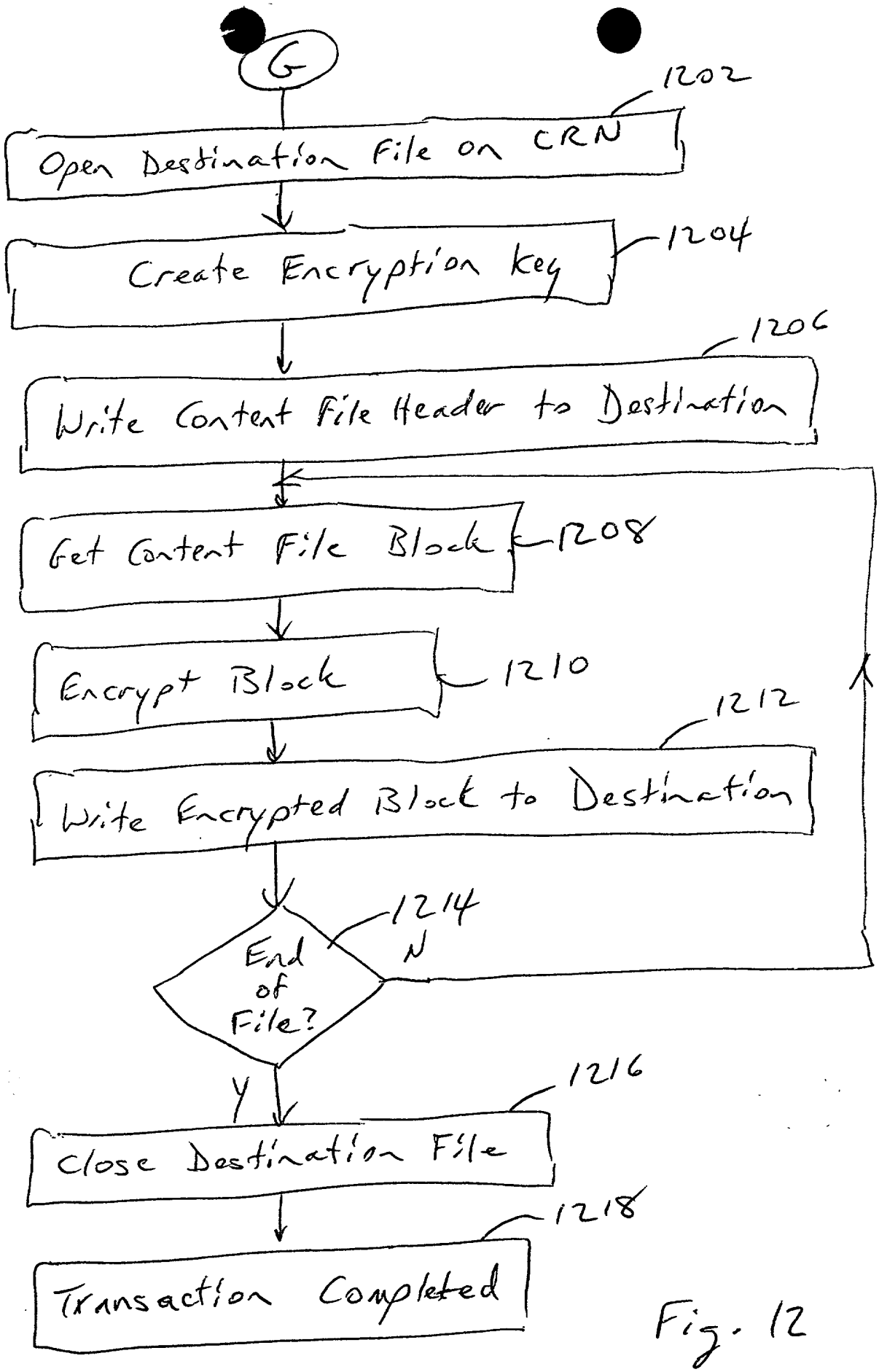

G
1202
Open Destination File on CRN
1204
Create Encryption key
1206
Write Content File Header to Destination
1208
Get Content File Block
1210
Encrypt Block
1212
Write Encrypted Block to Destination
1214
End of File?
N
Y
1216
Close Destination File
1218
Transaction Completed

Fig. 12

1300

MAP FILE
map.content.version
map.CPN.node.address.pathname.quality.level 1
map.CPN.node.address.pathname.quality.level 2
map.CPN.node.address.pathname.quality.level 3
. . .
map.CPN.node.address.pathname.quality.level N

Fig. 13

1400

CONTENT FILE HEADER
content.version
content.title
content.artist
content.copyright
content.date.recording
content.size
content.listen.begin
content.listen.duration
content.ID.code.type
content.ID.code.number
content.watermark.tech
content.legal.duration
content.file.number
content.usage.counter
content.CPN.node.address
content.generation.number
content.date.start.validity
content.date.stop.validity
content.encrypt.tech
content.encrypt.key
content.listen.price
content.listen.currency
content.copy.price
content.copy.currency
content.home.copy.price
content.home.copy.currency

Fig. 14

1500

REQUEST
request.map.pathname
request.access.mode
request.sound.quality
request.content.price
request.content.currency
request.CRN.node.address
request.CRN.username
request.CRN.password
request.CPN.node.address
request.CPN.product.name
request.CPN.product.number
request.CRN.node.address.transaction.number

Fig. 15

1600

PERMIT
map.content.version
map.CPN.node.address.pathname.quality level 1
map.CPN.node.address.pathname.quality level 2
map.CPN.node.address.pathname.quality level 3
. . .
map.node.address.pathname.quality level N
request.content.price
request.content.currency
permit.CPN.node.address
permit.AN.date.time

Fig. 16

1700

START REPORT
request.CRN.node.address.transaction.number
request.CRN.node.address
request.CRN.username
request.CRN.password
request.access.mode
start.report.date.time
content.title
content.artist
content.copyright
content.legal.duration
content.ID.code.type
content.ID.code.number
content.CPN.node.address
content.file.number
start.report.CRN.encrypt.key
request.content.price
request.content.currency
request.sound.quality
permit.map.CPN.node.address.pathname.quality.level[x]
start.report.CRN.timezone
start.report.CRN.language
start.report.CRN.keyboard

Fig. 17

1800

SUMMARY REPORT
request.CRN.node.address.transaction.number
request.CRN.node.address
request.CRN.username
request.CRN.password
content.ID.code.type
content.ID.code.number

Fig. 18

1900

ACCESS REPORT
content.title
content.artist
content.copyright
content.legal.duration
content.ID.code.type
content.ID.code.number
content.CPN.node.address
content.file.number
access.territory.rightowners
content.price
content.currency
request.CRN.node.address.transaction.number

Fig. 19

2000

DEBIT REPORT
content.ID.code.type
content.ID.code.number
content.CPN.node.address
request.CPN.product.name
request.CPN.product.number
debit.date.time
request.CRN.username
request.CRN.password
request.content.price
request.content.currency
request.CRN.node.address.transaction.number

Fig. 20